THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS' WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) A relief package comprising of assistance from Khadi & Village Industreis Commission (KVIC), Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI), Coiur Board and Natioanl Small Industries Corporation (NSIC) has been announced.

Mission to Moon

2448. SHRI PRAFULL GORADIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether ISRO has begun preliminary stuthes to assess the feasibility of undertaking a mission to the moon;

(b) if so, what are the scientific benefits which could be derived from the lunar mission;

(c) whether we have a rocket which has the proven capability to fly into the lunar orbit; and

(d) when the ISRO plans to undertake this mission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The scientific benefits will be in understanding the formation and evolution of the Moon by collecting new data on distribution of elements such as thorium, uranium and potassium on the lunar surface through high energy spectroscopy, investigation of the cometary matter on the Moon, prospecting the Moon for helium and studying the lunar interior.

(c) Yes, Sir. India's Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) has the capability to send a spacecraft to the Moon.

(d) The lunar mission is still under preliminary examination.

Launching of PSLY

2449. SHRI PRAFULL GORADIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether PSLV has so far been launched by the ISRO;

(b) if so, why it plans to transfer the entire technology for manufacturing and launching PSLVs to an India entrepreneur;

(c) whether any Indian entrepreneur has made any offer for this technology; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS' WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As a matter of policy, ISRO has been using Indian Industry for manufacturing of sub-systems and assembly operation, as far as possible. Currently, a number of sub-systems and propellants used are being supplied by the Indian industry. In the PSLV continuation phase, ISRO intends to increase the role of industries further. This